

- b) a nucleic acid sequence that codes on expression for the constant domain of an antibody selected from the group consisting of class IgG and class IgM of the mammal to be treated.

7. A method for treatment and prevention of dental caries in a mammal comprising administration to a subject in need of such treatment a chimeric monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to a cariogenic organism and elicits a humoral immune response to an antigen displayed by the cariogenic organism from the mammal, wherein the portion of the monoclonal antibody that binds to the cariogenic organism is derived from a species other than that of the mammal to be treated.

9. The method for treatment and prevention of dental caries of claim 8 wherein the step c) further comprises preparation of a nucleic acid construct that includes:

- a) a nucleic acid sequence that codes on expression for the complementarity determining region of the monoclonal antibody; and
- b) a nucleic acid sequence that codes on expression for the constant domain of an antibody selected from the group consisting of class IgG and class IgM of the mammal to be treated.

II. REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated July 25, 2002, in connection with the above-identified patent application. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12 and 17 are pending. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the claims as they will stand upon entry of the present amendments (as indicated) is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

A. Regarding the Amendments and Claim Objections

Claims 3 and 9 have been amended to comply with the formality. Claim 7 has been amended to state that the chimeric antibody is a hybrid between two different species. These